

ANNUAL NARRATIVE REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT **MINUTEMAN MISSILE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE**

FY 2008

(October 1, 2007 – September 30, 2008)



Minuteman Missile National Historic Site exceeded all previous records for visitation and tours during Fiscal Year 2008. Total site visitation increased 30.7% over FY07 including “overflow” crowds marking Minuteman’s second year of “Open Houses” at Launch Control Facility Delta-01. The number of open house visitors climbed by 24% over the previous year with 2,524 people attending the 15 Tuesday open houses

Administration & Management

- At the start of Fiscal Year 2008, site staff consisted of six permanent employees: Superintendent Mark Herberger, Chief of V&RP and I&VS Pam Griswold, Maintenance Mechanic John Black, Cultural Resource Specialist Mike Hosking, Park Interpreter Chris Wilkinson, and Administration Support Assistant Jeanne Berry. Similar to previous fiscal years, a significant challenge for the staff centered on managing the workload for the new site. Although each member of the Minuteman Missile team had an official title and job classification, the actual duties performed by each were quite diverse. Almost every day, each employee had to wear one of many “different hats” in order to meet the various circumstances and tasks needed to be accomplished.



In Fiscal Year 2008, the National Park Service initiated several new administrative programs including GovTrip and QuickTime, along with upgrades in property management. All of these programs were implemented at Minuteman Missile by the site's only administrative employee, Administration Support Assistant Jeanne Berry. In 2008, the position was upgraded to a GS-06 as recommended in the finalized Core Operations Analysis conducted during the previous year; eventually leading to a full performance GS-07 level.

- Like previous years, Minuteman Missile personnel received recognition for their response to various “reply due” correspondences. Although the reply dues can sometimes be enigmatic and untimely, they are a normal “part of doing business”. Additionally, they do serve as a baseline of information for the new site, and assist the staff in learning all of the various facets, nuances, and mandatory reporting requirements for the bureau.

One hundred-sixteen reply due memos were completed including background research into many of the memo subjects. Topics ranged from status reports to significant fiscal management issues and from protection-related annual reports to facility management milestones. A substantial amount of less-formal communications were drafted and sent, mostly pertaining to administrative needs and questions for the new site.

- Although the Minuteman Missile team is periodically assisted by personnel at Badlands NP, that arrangement is sometimes not available. For several years, Facility Operations Specialist John Black has accepted the collateral duties of assisting with IT operations when the Badlands Specialist cannot. In July of Fiscal Year 2008 park areas received notification of the “Certification and Accreditation of the NPS One General Support System”, a lengthy and comprehensive reply due

concerning new IT security systems. Fortunately, John rose to the occasion and assumed responsibility for the many facets of this “C&A report for Minuteman Missile National Historic Site. Over the past couple of months, John was able to research the issues and draft a set of responses for the reply. His work included a risk assessment, SOPs for our IT scenarios, and a “Tabletop” session with staff. John coordinated work with Regional and other IT specialists in order to make sure our computer operations and C&A needs are met, and that the reports were submitted accordingly. Because of his extra effort above and (way) beyond his normal duties, the staff at Minuteman Missile presented John with a Star Award.

- In response to the Departmental 5-Year Space Management Plan, site staff provided a repeat memo (as in previous year) recommending assistance that GSA assume our lot lease rather than having to fund the rental from our annual ONPS base.
- The site Administration Support Assistant worked with AOC and the Regional Office to separate Minuteman (1305) from Badlands (1300) in AFS and accounting for more efficient budget and cost projection tracking.

Community Relations

- Minuteman Missile continued memberships with the Wall and Philip Chambers of Commerce, the Black Hills Badlands and Lakes Association, and the Kadoka Community Association. All of the groups were provided updates on site development and planning, especially on the draft General Management Plan.



As part of a special Presidential program, the White House Christmas Tree was decorated with special ornaments representing each park area within the System. Each unit was tasked with finding a VIP artist to design and paint the ornament, symbolic of the unit's theme. Joan Buckles from Gordon, Nebraska was selected to create Minuteman Missile's contribution to the National tree. The gold ornament ball (identical for each park) was painted with crisscrossed flags from the United States and the former Soviet Union, with a Minuteman II missile centered between them.

- Ten news releases were drafted and distributed to local media. The coverage highlighted the site's visitor reservation system, the increase in summer

visitation, a special series of evening programs, public meetings for the draft General Management Plan, and the White House Christmas tree ornament.

- Midwest Regional Director Ernie Quintana visited the site in June for a luncheon meeting with staff and a tour of the historic site. RD Quintana visited Minuteman Missile when it was first established and this was his first visit back in several years.

Periodic updates were provided to staff members at all three local Congressional offices in Rapid City: Senator Tim Johnson, Senator John Thune, and Representative Stephanie Herseth Sandlin. In July, U.S. Representative Herseth Sandlin visited the site for her first time meeting with staff, discussing site development and priorities, and receiving a tour of Delta-01 and Delta-09.



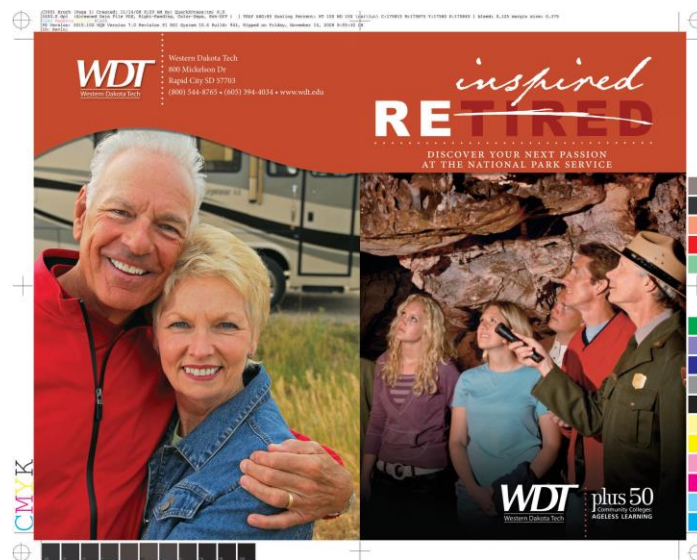
South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds hosted the 2008 Governor's Conference on Tourism highlighting his statewide program of doubling visitor spending to \$1.2 billion by 2010. The conference brings together businesses and individuals throughout the state's visitor industry for a variety of sessions. Park Interpreter Chris Wilkinson invited participants to learn about the state's newest national park

Concessions

- N.A.

Cooperative Activities

- Continuing in Fiscal Year 2008, the NEKOTA group provided support assistance to park units in Nebraska and the Dakotas in the areas of contracting and human resources. A significant portion of Minuteman Missile's contracting was forwarded to the NEKOTA procurement and contracting office – care of Ron Eilefson. Ron office coordinated 13 requisitions for the site including our on-going inspections, PMIS project funding, and propane purchases. Although the site has received “above-and-beyond” assistance from the NEKOTA office, its status and future organization is in question as the National Park Service is proceeding with restructuring of Human Resource and Contracting offices nationwide. Many of the questions will be defined and answered in the coming FY09.
- In late winter, Mount Rushmore Superintendent Baker invited local superintendents to attend an exploratory meeting with Western Dakota Tech, a technical college based in Rapid City, in order to discuss a possible partnership opportunity. West Tech received a grant to develop a new curriculum to “retrain” individuals 50 years or older into new employment skills. The partnership portion of the meeting centered on how the local park areas could become involved if interested. The premise being: focusing the curriculum of the new course on providing students the KSAs necessary to become National Park Service volunteers and/or seasonal interpreters.



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed among Western Dakota Tech, Mount Rushmore, Badlands, Wind Cave, and Minuteman Missile. During the rest of the fiscal year, subsequent meetings detailed objectives and responsibilities, further curriculum development, and a timeframe for goals. The actual course is slated to begin in January of 2009 with instructional field trips planned to all four participating park areas.

Cultural Resource Management

- It was a slow year for collection acquisition. Most of our acquisitions came from the maintenance projects being completed this year. This provided an opportunity to catch up on the small backlog that had occurred since the site's formation and to keep up with the architectural elements that have come from Delta-01 and -09 due to work done to the facilities. There were 6 accessions this year totaling 253 artifacts. Five accessions, totaling 56 artifacts, were gifts from outside donors. There were 3 instances where collections were offered but were outside the Scope of Collections and these donors were assisted in finding other museums to donate their items to.



PES (Power Equipment Systems) Seal Viewer, MIMI 2943



PES (Power Equipment Systems) Training Seals, MIMI 2942

- The cooperation between Badlands National Park and Minuteman Missile continued with the sharing of museum space. The site supports this effort by providing \$1,200 each year to the Badlands curatorial operations. The funding

assists with utility costs, space rental, and the purchase of museum supplies and equipment. The museum inventories for both park areas were accomplished by sharing staff between the parks and utilizing these staff members to more efficiently complete the tasks. Minuteman Missile Cultural Resource Specialist Mike Hosking continued to work on improving the storage space to fit the needs of both parks including the submission of a PMIS statement to fully furnish this space.

- Mike was also able to assist the MWRO during the PMIS review in January and serves on a special assignment team with the pack and move of the Agate Fossil Beds museum collection in August. For Mike, it was a pleasure to work on these activities since the experience is very difficult to obtain through standard training routes. This was also a way to gain more experience working as part of larger, diverse team of co-workers that he is not accustomed to working with on a daily basis.

Development

- In response to the Fiscal year 2009 and 2010 Alternative Transportation in Parks and Public Lands Project Call, site staff provided a repeat memo (as in previous year) recommending assistance for shuttle vans and construction of parking areas at Delta-01 and Delta—09 once the draft General Management Plan is finalized. The reply also invited representative(s) from the Regional Transportation Office to become involved in up-coming planning meeting for the site's future visitor center/administration facility.

Facility Management

Once Minuteman Missile's Core Operations Organization Chart was finalized in 2007, work began on creating a Facility Operations Specialist position. On March 17, 2008, John Black assumed his new responsibilities as the historic site's first Facility Manager. The new position is responsible for the organization, management, and supervision of facility maintenance and facility operations for the site, as well as assisting in coordination of Minuteman Missile's future visitor center/headquarters facility. Prior to this position, John serves as the site's Maintenance Mechanic.



- Four facility management-related PMIS projects received funding for FY 2008 and were initiated and completed during the fiscal year. The projects were: replacing the roof on the Delta-01 Launch Control Facility, replacing the roof and gutters on the Delta-01 garage, repairing the security light control panel at Delta-01, and replacing the garage furnace at Delta-01.



Replacing the roof on the Delta-01 Launch Control facility

- In addition to the projects funded in FY 2008, five other projects funded in previous fiscal years and obligated, were completed during 2008. All of the projects were at Delta-01 and included replacing the interior carpeting, resealing the parking lot, replacing electrical panel boards, replacing circulator pumps, and replacing the garage doors.

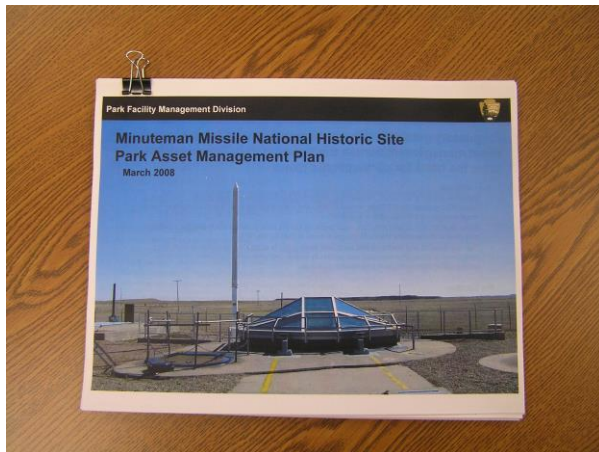


TIME TO CLEAN THE WINDOWS

After six years since installation of the Delta-09 “viewing enclosure”, site staff undertook the task of cleaning the interior side of the glass enclosure. The enclosure sits atop the Delta-09 Launch Facility protecting the open structure and allowing visitors to view the ICBM inside the 80-foot silo. Special scaffolding and safety harnesses allowed Facility Manager John Black and Centennial Seasonal Interpreter Cody Johnson attend to the cleaning duties.

- For several years the National Park Service has worked toward, and made significant gains in implementing asset management principles and practices. With an “Asset Management Plan”, a park area can more precisely identify the asset collection, along with the condition and value of those assets.

In March of 2008, the site hosted an asset planning team from the Regional office on a three-day visit to draft a plan for Minuteman Missile. The idea behind the “PAMP” is to provide a current snapshot of Minuteman Missile’s asset portfolio, enabling the staff to better understand and articulate the state of our assets and the funding requirements of those assets.



Examination of base funding allows Minuteman Missile to plan and prioritize for the site’s operations and maintenance (O&M) budget. Examination of project funding helps to identify measures to reduce deferred maintenance (DM) while planning for replacement needs (CR). The Asset Management Plan shows an annual O&M “funding gap” of \$89K, an annual DM gap of \$35K, and CR costs of \$113 over the next ten years.

Fiscal

- Seventeen base accounts were developed for Minuteman Missile’s fifth year of official operations:
 - Collections Management
 - Cultural Resources
 - Education
 - Interpretation & Visitor Services
 - Interpretation & Visitor Services Administration
 - LE Patrols
 - Visitor and Resource Protection
 - Facility Maintenance (contemporary assets)
 - Facility Maintenance (historic assets)
 - Fleet Repair
 - Facility Operations (contemporary assets)
 - Fleet Fuel
 - Utilities
 - Facility Operations
 - Administration
 - Human Resources
 - Management

- The ONPS budget for Fiscal Year 2008 began with the FY 2007 enacted of \$638,400. A FY 2008 pay cost increase added an additional \$17,000 along with \$11,000 for one Centennial Seasonal. A 1% base funds contingency subtracted \$6,604. After all assessments and adjustments including deductions for uniforms, NEKOTA, the GSA lot lease, and a “filming” offset, the final net figure for the site totaled \$627,378. By the end of Fiscal Year 2008, \$818 remained in our base.

Additional funding awarded to Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in Fiscal Year 2008:

| | |
|--|---------------|
| - Volunteer Account | \$ 1,323.00 |
| - DSL Payments | (\$ 1,668.00) |
| - Equipment Replacement | \$ 62,267.00 |
| - Repair Security Light Controls at D-01 | \$ 3,130.00 |
| - Replace Roof at D-01 | \$ 72,000.00 |
| - Replace Garage Roof & Gutters at D-01 | \$ 14,265.00 |
| - Purchase “Spider” | \$ 23,454.00 |
| - Park Steward Program | \$ 1,500.00 |
| - Albright Wirth Grant | \$ 1,000.00 |
| - Junior Rangers | \$ 7,500.00 |
| - Garage Heating System at Delta-01 | \$ 9,820.00 |

- In response to the Servicewide Comprehensive Call, site staff drafted eleven new project statements and entered them into the PMIS database. All of the previously submitted projects needed to be reviewed for accuracy, appropriateness, and slightly revised to include FMSS data. Thirty-eight of the “older” submissions were rewritten and resubmitted. Site staff prioritized 49 projects with the top five being: replace the leaking roof at Delta-01, replace the circulating pumps at Delta-01, equipment replacement needs, implement the GMP boundary adjustment, and investigate water infiltration.
- Minuteman Missile currently has 6 OFS statements submitted for a total of \$947,000.00. All six statements were reviewed and revised according to the most recent guidelines. The site’s top two priorities, “Providing for the GSA Lot Lease” and “Providing Core Visitor Services” have been prioritized by the Midwest Region at #’s 55 and 70 respectively.
- Minuteman Missile’s 2nd year of donations amounted to \$1,798. The site used some of this money to upgrade exhibits at the contact station. A second set of replica missiles were purchased to allow for one set to be used for school programs. Also a digital map of the missile fields was designed and purchased for an exhibit.
- A decision was made by WASO to freeze both fee increases for any park collecting fees and postpone any new fees. This decision will put our fee program on hold through at least FY09.

Interpretation & Visitor Services



Delta-09 was the scene for the first self-guided tour option for Minuteman Missile's visitor services and was met with tremendous success. Through the use of a cell phone, visitors could access a self-guided tour featuring 10 stops within the launch facility compound. Because of the cell phone technology, Delta-09 was accessible to hundreds of visitors who would have otherwise been unable to experience the former missile silo. By accessing a pre-recorded interpretive tour of 10 stops at the silo, 1,338 unique callers made a total of 2,018 calls lasting 16,626 minutes (277 total hours). This self-guided option ran from mid-June through October and will be expanded during the coming year.

- During Fiscal Year 2008, Minuteman Missile National Historic Site welcomed 21,843 visitors. Total visitation to the site increased by 30.7% over the 2007 season. The number of tours given to visitors increased from 698 in 2007 to 823 in 2008. The number of visitors on tours also saw a remarkable increase from 7,267 in 2007 to 9,003 in 2008.
- Delta-09 continued to increase in visitation. Ranger staffing was not only at the site for 3 hours each morning, but staffing also took place for one hour every afternoon following the reservation tour. This led to 3,684 visitors touring the site, a 9.0 % gain over 2007.

Several factors led to the increase in visitation. The site increased its open house schedule, offering additional open houses in May. Open house visitation climbed by 24% over the previous year with 2,524 visitors attending the 15 Tuesday open houses. The open house tour is an abbreviated version of the regular tour. All visitors get to opportunity to descend into the underground Launch Control Center, where a former Air Force Launch Officer, in period uniform talks about operations at the once secure facility.



The Centennial Commitment provided Minuteman Missile with one Interpretative seasonal ranger. The additional position allowed the site to increase the number of visitors on tour, allowed the visitor contact station to remain open on Saturdays, and increased overall hours the Delta-09 facility was open to the public. This extra seasonal position, occupied by Cody Johnson, accounted for most of the increases in visitation and visitor services offered during the 2008 season.



- Thanks to support from Tom Richter and Roberta Wendell, we were able to get several wayside exhibits fabricated and delivered in Fiscal Year 2008. These exhibits will be ready for installation in 2009. They will be located at Delta-09, Delta-01, and at the visitor contact station. This will greatly enhance the visitor experience particularly when rangers are not at the sites.
- On the Junior Ranger front, the site's Interpretive Services Division received a grant of \$7,500 to be used to enhance Junior Ranger services. The site had 650

Junior Rangers certified in Fiscal Year 2008. This was an increase of 13.0 % over 2007. The site upgraded the Junior Ranger booklets for both the 7-11 and 12 and up age groups and procured official pencils and patches from the additional funding.

Minuteman Missile's educational program exceeded all expectations for Fiscal Year 2008. Interpretive Park Ranger Chris Wilkinson gave a series of 24 in-school programs throughout the southwest South Dakota focusing on many of the rural schools. The programs educated school children about Minuteman II missiles and the effects the missile field had on the South Dakota landscape and way of life. In all, 699 students and 102 teachers and parents attended the programs. In addition, 86 Junior Rangers were certified because of the school visits.



Lands

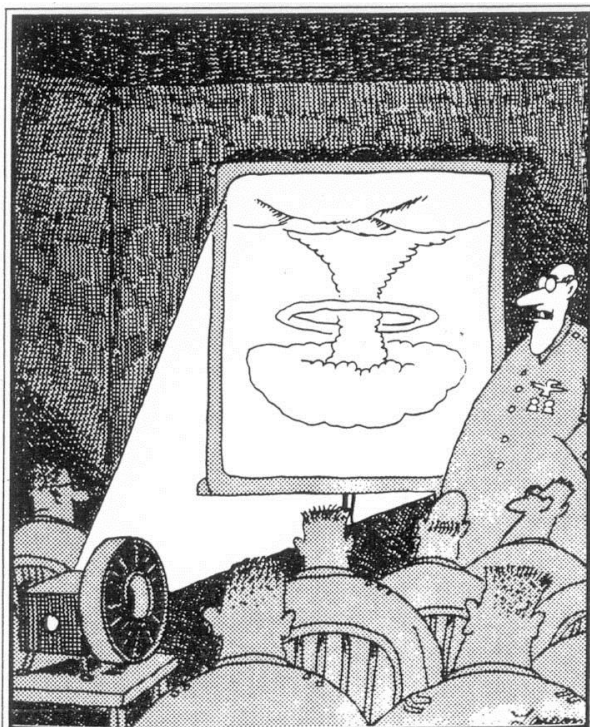
- The on-going land issues at Delta-09 continued into Fiscal Year 2008. The long-awaited survey of Delta-09, contracted through the NEKOTA office in 2007 and obligated into 2008, was completed in early October. Land Surveyor John Calhoun provided Minuteman Missile with his survey maps showing the 5-acre boundary with dimensions and coordinates. Although the Regional Lands Office

voiced some displeasure with the results of the survey, Delta-09's 5-acre rectangle was finally delineated on paper.

Our next step in the process was to obtain an "official" recognition of the land transfer from the U.S. Forest Service. As mentioned in previous Reports, the MWR Lands Office never received "official" notice of transfer of the lands at Delta-09 from the U.S. Forest Service who originally owned the land. According to the U.S. Forest Service, the site's enabling legislation serves as the official transfer of land and a letter is not necessary but the Omaha office insisted on something in writing.

Through meetings with USFS District Ranger Kevin Atchley (for the Wall District of the Buffalo Gap National Grasslands), it was agreed that the Forest Service would provide a more formal narrative through their review and comments of Minuteman Missile's draft General Management Plan, scheduled for its 60-day public review in March/April of 2008.

On April 29, 2008, Superintendent Herberger received the draft GMP comments from Forest Supervisor Donald Bright containing a paragraph concerning Delta-09 – except that the letter now "transferred" Delta-09 to Badlands National Park! Details were revisited and explained during a Forest Integrated Resource Review meeting on June 24 where Superintendent Herberger took the opportunity to raise the issue with Forest Service officials including the Regional Forester and the Nebraska National Forest Supervisor. With the first-hand contact, all parties began to understand the challenges of the issue and agreed that a new letter would be forthcoming. By the end of Fiscal Year 2008, District Ranger Atchley received the letter from his Supervisors and was sending it to Minuteman Missile.



"Now this next slide, gentlemen, demonstrates the awesome power of our twenty megaton. ... For crying out loud! Not again!"

**Comic relief care of
Farside**

Natural Resource Management

- Minor quantities of Razor Pro and Plateau herbicides were applied to 7.6 acres at Delta-01 and Delta-09 during Fiscal Year 2008. The applications are assisting in maintaining the historic appearance of the cultural landscape at the facilities.
- The Northern Great Plains Network completed a modest project for Minuteman Missile during Fiscal Year 2008. Members of their team researched the site on various days throughout the previous year and a half in order to draft a “species occurrence” list for us. The list was completed and printed as a “Vertebrate and Floristic Inventories at Minuteman Missile National Historic Site: 2007 Status Report”. The Natural Resource Technical Report is NPS/NGPN/NRTR-2008/001.



Swift fox Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, Delta, and Echo along with radio-collared mom and dad pose for a photo outside their den at the Delta-01 sewage lagoon

Personnel



The Fiscal Year 2008 staff at Minuteman Missile National Historic Site:

Back Row: Park Ranger (Interpretation) Chris Wilkinson, Russian VIP Egor Prokofyev, Seasonal Park Ranger (LE) Jack Hanson, Facility Operations Specialist John Black, and Administration Support Assistant Jeanne Berry.

Front Row: Centennial Seasonal Park Ranger (Interpretation) Cody Johnson, Seasonal Park Ranger (Interpretation) Melissa Sams, Seasonal Maintenance Worker Jackie Shull, Cultural Resource Specialist Mike Hosking, Superintendent Mark Herberger, VIP Al Martens, and Chief of Resource & Visitor Protection and Interpretation & Visitor Services Pam Griswold.

(missing: Seasonal Park Ranger (Interpretation) Kerry Davis, VIP Al Hall)

- On a sidebar note, most of the staff traveled on a local field trip on June 4, visiting Mount. Rushmore. The group was let on an interpretive hike up the “heads” by Memorial staff. Two seasonal interpretive rangers from Badlands National Park operated the site’s contact station for the day in lieu of our staff.

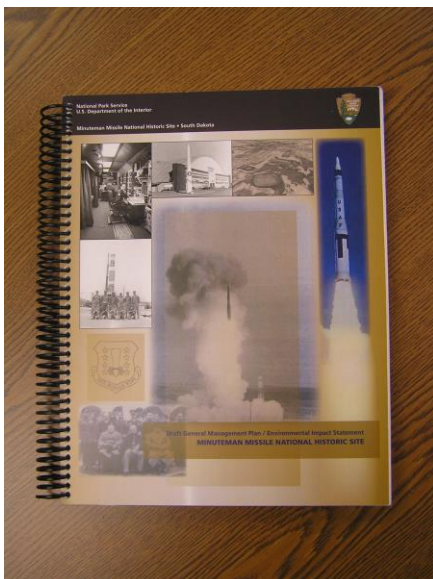
Planning

- During Fiscal Year 2007, team members at Minuteman Missile devoted significant blocks of time researching and drafting new narratives for the site’s draft General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement in response to prior comments returned from the WASO Park Planning and Special Studies

Office. The significant comments centered on four major issues: boundary adjustments, staffing, shuttle system and facilities, and overall cost estimates. Although the revised draft was presented to Deputy Director Dan Wenk at the NPS D.C. Office on June 27, 2007, a series of WASO memos towards the end of FY07 indicated that someone in the Washington office was continuing to have questions on the draft. As such, the Park Planning & Special Studies Division advised the Midwest Region not to obligate a contract to print the GMP for public review. MWR Chief of Planning and Compliance continued her work to “sort out” the issue(s) and proposed that part of the challenges were a result of a shuffling of personnel into “acting” position at the WASO Planning Office; perhaps with each new individual wanting to review and sometimes reinvent the draft GMP.

As an additional remedy to the issue, Superintendent Herberger invited staff members from the WASO Planning Office to visit Minuteman Missile in order to see the site first hand. During the week of October 15, Patrick Gregerson and Tokey Boswell visited Minuteman Missile, toured the site with staff, and spent a day learning about the draft GMP’s issues from a “Minuteman” point of view. Towards the end of calendar year 2007, the Regional Director received a memo from the Acting Associate Director for Park Planning approving the draft plan and process to proceed with the 60-day public review.

In addition to permission to print, the Park Planning & Special Studies also approved a \$38,000 appeal for extra funding to continue the GMP process for the following two years in order to move the plan to a final document and Record of Decision. The Federal Register Notice began the 60-day public review period on February 29, 2008 and a revised mailing list recorded over 250 copies of the draft GMP mailed to appropriate stakeholders.



Minuteman Missile’s draft GMP/EIS was sent to 251 individuals, businesses, Tribal governments, and federal, state, and local agencies. Press releases, the NPS public involvement website, and cover letters announced mechanisms for the public to provide input on the Plan. Input included three public meetings: Wall, SD on March 18, Pierre, SD on March 19, and Rapid City, SD on March 20. Over 100 individuals took part in the public “open house” meetings and in total, the site received 46 comments on the plan via in person, letter, fax, the NPS website, and email.

Due to the nature of non-substantive comments, Regional Environmental Coordinator Nick Chevance requested permission to prepare an abbreviated Environmental Impact Statement rather than a full final EIS. Following a brief review and turnaround from the Washington Office, approval for the abbreviated EIS was given on July 24. By the end of Fiscal Year 2008, the Denver Service

Center was awaiting for the Midwest Planning office to review the abbreviated document and forward comments to Denver.

- Minuteman Missile's 2008 Annual Performance Plan listed 13 GPRA Goals. Of the Category I Goals to "Preserve Park Resources", the site met 3 and exceeded 2 of our goals. Of the Category II Goals relating to "Visitor Experience", the site met 3 goals and exceeded 1. For the Category IV Goals, the site met 3 and exceeded 1.
- Compliance is on track. There were four projects that were submitted and three completed the fiscal year. The time constraints between the time the compliance is sent and then received back in the park are still a struggle. Compliance was sent via the PEPC system in hopes that this would expedite the review but since it was still printed and routed it actually took longer than mailing the paperwork to Region. It is my hope that personnel will be able to utilize the PEPC database fully to assist in expediting 106 submissions.

Property

- As a start-up park area, Minuteman Missile utilizes the Project Management Inventory System for a variety of resource and program needs at the new site. As of the beginning of Fiscal Year 2008, site team members have submitted several components entered onto our Equipment Replacement (PMIS 103459) submittal. One challenge for the site, however, has been to compete for vehicle equipment replacement funding. During Minuteman Missile's formative years (FY 2004 and FY 2005), criteria for vehicle equipment replacement did not allow us to compete for funding in order to acquire new additions to our fleet. With a modest budget, three of our fleet vehicles were acquired as surplus items from other park areas.

Although the current regional criteria for equipment replacement remain similar to previous years, there has been one important insert relevant to our situation. The recent change has been to allow new park areas, like Minuteman Missile, to request a waiver so we would be able to replace our surplus vehicles through the program. Superintendent Herberger submitted a waiver memo to the regional Office at the beginning of the fiscal year, which was approved, allowing the site to add three new components to the equipment replacement package.

The effort proved successful as Minuteman Missile was awarded just over \$62,000 for equipment replacement, including funding to replace two surplus vehicles on the waiver request.



In 2004, Minuteman Missile acquired this 1993 surplus vehicle from Badlands NP. In 2008, funding from the equipment replacement program allowed the site to purchase a new maintenance vehicle.

Public Use

- Minuteman Missile staff began taking reservations for the 2008 summer season on Monday, April 7. The phone was busy that day, with over 150 calls requesting a summer tour and almost immediately, slots for the daily tours (Monday through Friday) began to fill. By the end of the visitor season on Labor Day, most if not all of the approximately 1,600 tour slots had been filled to capacity.

Visitors came from all over the nation and globe in 2008. Seven continents were represented along with a variety of far flung locales including Israel, South Africa and even the tiny principality of Andorra. States with the most visitors touring the site included of course South Dakota at number one followed by California, Minnesota and Illinois.

- The site hosted other guests including employees from the Regional office, contractors working on various Minuteman Missile projects, media personnel, travel writers from the Visitor's Bureau, VIPs from the National Parks Conservation Association and the South Dakota Governor's Office, and members of the Civil Air Patrol.

Research

- Work for two long-awaited projects, the Historic Structures Report and the Cultural Landscape Report (awarded in Fiscal Year 2007) began during 2008 with a "kick off" meeting among site team members, Regional Coordinators Bill Harlow and Marla McEnaney, and representatives from the contractor, Quinn Evans. Both projects have been combined as the "Minuteman Missile NHS Property Condition and Integrity Assessment" and are being coordinated in-house by Cultural Resource Specialist Mike Hosking.



Cultural landscape approaching at Delta-01



Launch Control Facility historic structure at Delta-01

The purpose of the meeting was to review the goals and objectives of the project and discuss the tentative plan for the site survey. The group visited Ellsworth Air Force Base Civil Engineer Tim Pavék's office and compiled a list of archival material important for the project.

- Oral histories took a back burner for FY08. Cultural Resource Specialist Michael Hosking was able to get 2 oral histories transcribed that were conducted in 2007 and finalized for the park's collection. He felt that it was time to stop and reevaluate the oral histories and see what direction needed to be taken in the future for the best cost and time value. Contacts were still gathered through the year and prioritized/organized. It was decided that Boeing employees and other civilian contractors should take the high priority since this is a large gap in the oral history program for the site. Currently it is unknown how to get the transcription funded, but he is looking into PMIS possibilities as well as other money sources to accomplish this for the upcoming fiscal year.

Safety

- The team at Minuteman Missile continued to make progress to complete the 18 safety issues identified in the PRIZIN audit. Nine of the safety recommendations have been completed. Five findings will be completed pending PMIS projects being funded and 4 other items are pending due to upcoming training and equipment that needs to be purchased.
- All park staff along with Badlands Search And Rescue team participated in the SAR rescue training at Delta-01 in February. During the exercise, the team practiced a litter raising and elevator rescue. All aspects of the training went smoothly.

Training

- Like previous fiscal years, travel restrictions affecting government employees allowed for modest opportunities for site team members to participate in formal training courses. Minuteman Missile's "Travel Reduction Target" was set at \$15,000.

| Formal Training Received During Fiscal Year 2008 | |
|--|-----------------|
| Detail to Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore | John |
| LE Refresher in St. Louis | Pam |
| Interpretive Conference in Omaha | Chris and Pam |
| Curator's Meeting | Mike |
| AFS Training in Omaha | Jeanne |
| Appropriations Law in Omaha | Mark |
| Interpretive Coaching at HFC | Chris |
| Chief Ranger's Conference in Keystone | Pam and Mark |
| Basic Records in Rapid City | Jeanne and Mike |
| Electronic Records in Rapid City | Jeanne |
| Environmental Management System in NM | John |
| IPM Training | Mike |
| Superintendent's Summit at Snowbird, UT | Mark |
| Operational Leadership in St. Louis | Mark |
| Superintendent's Roundtable at NCTC | Mark |

- Superintendent Herberger attended the National Park Service Superintendent's Summit in July held in Snowbird, Utah. The agenda focused on key themes of preparing the NPS for the next century of service to America and preparing ourselves for the challenges ahead. About 500 colleagues attended the summit providing the opportunity to meet and network with other park managers.

VIPs

- Minuteman Missile had a remarkable increase in the quantity of volunteer service during Fiscal Year 2008. VIP's logged 632 hours. Volunteers such as Al Martens and Al Hall, former missile combat crew members, joined the team for another exciting summer season. Beginning in early June until after Labor Day, they logged in over 195 hours supplementing the site's interpretive services. Minuteman Missile's VIP expenditures totaled **\$13,105.00**; the site's allocation was **\$1,323.00** (and \$1,500 for the Park Steward Program).



Local volunteers from the Badlands Riders 4-H Club joined forces in September with two maintenance projects at the cactus Flats visitor contact station. Youngsters and adults from the Club participated in the park steward program in honor of National Public lands Day. The V.I.P.s spent the morning restoring the contact station's entranceway deck and assisted with constructing a wooden safety fence.

- Park VIP and Russian citizen Egor Prokofiev led the first night programs in site history. The program entailed an opening presentation at the National Grasslands in Wall, South Dakota followed by a visit to view the illuminated missile silo at Delta-0-9. Entitled *"The Last World War"*, visitors had the rare opportunity to learn how both Russian and United States citizens portrayed one another in propaganda during the Cold War. This presentation also covered the looming specter of nuclear conflict. Prokofiev's program related "the idea of what would have happened if the Cold War turned hot - what if doomsday had occurred." Prokofiev also was a vital member of the interpretive staff. He led tours, worked open houses and staffed the front desk throughout the summer. He ended up logging 350 VIP hours for the site.



Russian Volunteer Egor Prokofiev

Visitor & Resource Protection

- Minuteman Missile Chief Ranger Pam Griswold supported the law enforcement operation at Badlands during the Sturgis Rally by riding along with staff members during the busy bike week. Several motorcycle accidents were investigated as well as numerous traffic infractions. No fatalities were investigated in Badlands this Fiscal Year during the Rally.

- Park managers at both Badlands and Minuteman Missile continued with a split visitor protection position between the two areas. This year, the “split” ran approximately 80% Minuteman Missile and 20% Badlands. The seasonal ranger position was designed to support Minuteman Missile by providing a law enforcement presence on weekends, and at times when Visitor Protection Ranger Pam Griswold was away. In addition to law enforcement duties, the position was also designed so the employee would provide a significant percent of interpretation support for Minuteman Missile.



Visitor Protection Seasonal Ranger Jack Hanson leading a guided tour of Delta-01

- More work was done on the security system at Delta-01. Amick Sound identified numerous problems with the system and finally was able to get the system up and running. Amick Sound also worked on the security system at Delta-09. This system is going to require some addition work and some additional signage.



Delta-09 Missile Silo Launch Facility



Warning Sign at the Delta-01 entrance



Delta-01 Launch Control Facility Main Gate Key

Superintendent, Minuteman Missile NHS

Date